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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY China

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SUBJECT Rumors Regarding LIN Piao

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DO NOT CIRCULATE
Early April 1951, except as noted

SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. On 25 November 1950 LIN Piao was killed in Pyongyang during a bombing raid.¹
2. Since April 1951 the rumor has been spreading in Mukden that LIN Piao was killed in an air bombardment. However, the Chinese Communists repeatedly refer to him as though he were alive, reporting that he has "gone to Russia" or that "he is in command of the Volunteers." It is characteristic of the Communist technique to try to camouflage a notable person's death. As the people in China have not seen LIN Piao in public for some time, there is speculation as to his whereabouts and the reason he was not chosen as a delegate for the cease-fire talks.¹ TENG Hua, the Communist delegate for the cease-fire talks, holds no rank except his military position.²
- 25X1X 3. LIN Piao suffered the loss of one leg and one arm in the bombing in Korea and was taken to the Peiping Union Medical clinic for treatment.

- 25X1A 1. [REDACTED] Comment. On 28 August the China Daily News reported that LIN Piao will take charge of the Chinese forces in Korea if the cease-fire talks fail. The News said that 500,000 troops under LIN are massed on the Manchurian side of the Yalu River boundary with North Korea. The newspaper also reported that the Chinese Communists are dissatisfied with the failure of PENG Teh-huai to gain the upper hand at the cease-fire talks. See [REDACTED] for report on the state of LIN Piao's health.
- 25X1A 2. [REDACTED] for report that TENG Hua will be the new commander of the reorganized 4 Field Army.

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